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THE
KING's EVIL
Perfectly Cured.

1867

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Perfect CURE^y
FOR THE
King's EVIL,

(Whether *Hereditary* or *Accidental,*)

By Effectual

Alcalious Medicines :

Faithfully approv'd by the *Experience* of
Eighteen Years *Practice*, and the *Testi-*
mony of above Four Hundred *Pati-*
ents restor'd beyond Relapse.

By THOMAS FERN *Chirurgion.*

P. S. Giving an exact Account also how *He* him-
self was perfectly cur'd by the *same Medicines* ;
after having languish'd Eleven Years under the
same Distemper, and being given over at last,
by several Eminent *Physicians* and *Surgeons* in
LONDON.

Varia Hominum dona.

LONDON: Printed, and Sold by D. Browne, at the
Black Swan without *Temple-Bar*. G. Strahan, at the
Golden Ball in *Cornhill*. A. Bettesworth at the *Red-Lion*
on *London-Bridge*; C. King in *Westminster-Hall*. Mr. Cor-
bet, at the *Bible* on *St. Mary-Hill*. Mr. Mears against
Lincoln's-Inn-Gate in *Chancery-lane* ; and at the Au-
thor's House in *Grange-Court*, near *Lincoln's-Inn-Fields*.



T O

George Boddington, Esq;

WORTHY SIR,



*YOU will easily pardon the
Presumption of Dedicat-
ing this Book to your
Self, upon so particular a
Subject ; if you consider either your
own Generous Temper, or my In-
terest and Reputation. However,
Your great Regard for the Publick
Good and Welfare of all Mankind,
embolden'd me to make you this Ad-
dress,*

The Dedication.

dress, as much as my own Resolution never to publish this Treatise, without having the Honour of Prefixing your Name to it. Now, as you had done me the Signal Favour to employ me in your own Family, about an Affair of this Malignant Nature, I thought you would not take it ill of me to acknowledge it in Print; but rather candidly interpret it as a Piece of Gratitude for your countenancing my Practice. And if I have succeeded so far or so well hitherto in what I privately undertook, as to deserve your Good Word and Publick Recommendation of my Endeavours, as you lately did to the Duke of L---ds and some others: I hope, you will yet also further vouchsafe to
grant

The Dedication.

grant me your Patronage to this small Tract of the KING'S EVIL, which I design'd purely for the Common Benefit of the World.

For whether I consider your Generosity, as a Publick Spirited Gentleman; your Great Merit, as an Eminent Member of our Metropolis; your extraordinary Goodness and Charity, as one of the Governours of Christ's Hospital; your Prudence and Vast Dealing in one of the best of Companies for Commerce and Traffick, as a Turkey-Merchant; or your Tender Care and Affection at last, as a most discreet Father of a Family: All these Honours and Excellencies

The Dedication.

cies strongly persuade me ; that, as I have been so Happy as to have your Dear Son (sick of this Distemper) for a private Patient, I shall not want also your Self for a Patron of my approv'd Practice in Publick.

The Treatise, I believe, will prove, as I intended it, without Ostentation, of General Use and Singular Service to all Persons that are afflicted with Scrofulous Diseases themselves, or that have either Children or Friends labouring under the same in their Families. For what can be more valuable than Health ; without which, all other Enjoyments are so insipid ? No other Blessing has any Taste without this. Besides

The Dedication

sides, the SCROFULA, of all other Distempers, takes the Eye soonest, and is the most disagreeable Sight in Society: an ugly offensive Distemper, that often hinders People from appearing abroad in Publick; which for that very Reason, they most of all covet the Cure of, to be like other Persons in open View.

But however, as to the Performance it self, I did it upon your ingenious Son's account, as well as the Success and Encouragement I have had from you upon this Occasion, for curing the Scrofula in its most desperate Circumstances: and let the Criticks pretend what they please, whether they censure or insult; I
B *shall*

The Dedication.

shall always think it my chief Happiness and sufficient Security, to live in your Good Opinion, to continue under your Protection, and to deserve the Character of being,

Worthy Sir,

Your most Obedient

Faithful Servant,

THOMAS FERN.

THE
P R E F A C E
TO THE
R E A D E R.



HAVING for many Years last past, advertis'd the World of an extraordinary Secret in Physick, design'd both by Nature and Art for the Publick Good ; and propos'd as often likewise, not only to relieve, but also perfectly cure all Persons whatsoever afflicted with any Scrophulous Diseases, Strumous Tumors, or Malignant Ulcers ; either in the Glands, or any other parts of the Body, which are commonly call'd the KING's EVIL : I thought I could not do better now, after repeated Suc-
B 2 *cesses*

The Preface.

cesses, than publish a rational Discourse of this kind, exemplify'd by many Experimental Cures; as well to justify my own Pretensions and Knowledge against common Prejudice or vulgar Incredulity, as to satisfy other People either about my Care, Method, or Ability, and to convince 'em at last of the Truth of it by Matter of Fact.

This Discourse then is not usher'd into the World with a Bravado, either to offend or affront other excellent Practicers in their way, tho' perhaps often Unsuccessful; but only, with a modest Confidence, and without much boasting of an incomparable **NOSTRUM**, to aver, that for Eighteen Years already past, I have cur'd great Numbers of Men, Women, and Children, who had been sorely afflicted a long time with this difficult Distemper, and almost (if not altogether) despair'd of by many eminent Surgeons: as will evidently appear by the Names and Places of Abode of the several Patients hereafter mention'd in the Conclusion of this Book.

Now

The Preface.

Now the Reason of the Thing being plainly made out here, I think there is no denying of Experience or Skill in the Affair of this Disease; without winking (as it were) at the Sun, to dispute its shining. But how should such unlicens'd or illiterate Empericks, that know either little of Physick or nothing at all of Chirurgery, and yet pretend to cure so unaccountable a Malady with Old Wives Medicines, or worse; how should they (I say) ever do any Good upon't? This is what I do not understand, and wonder at; why they should either be fondly employ'd by some credulous People, or should forwardly undertake such Impossibilities themselves; being both beyond their Reach as to manual Operation, and above the Sphere of their Knowledge as to Internal Medicines.

The Blessing of GOD indeed will go a great way in these desperate Cases, and without it, all is but Labour in vain at the best; let Man's Endeavours be never so great, or their Medicines

The Preface.

Medicines never so good: But then, who should find out better ordinary Means of Cure, or take more proper Methods for't, than some old able experienc'd Professor or other of the Art? As for my Self, far be it from Me to pretend to more than I can perform, and have often accomplish'd with undeniable Success. However, Divines do not use to work Miracles now a-days; neither can they cure the KING's EVIL, I believe, by Virtue either of their Function, Sanctity, or Blessing. 'Tis certainly either a Physician's or a Surgeon's Business, without making Ill Work on't. In short, setting aside any other Formality of prefacing or vanity of Conceit as to my Pretension, I can only say this modestly; That the Hall hath long since authoriz'd my Practice by a DIPLOMA, besides the License I have from Doctors Commons; and I hope the Reader as well as my Brother Surgeons, will now also approve on't, for the Benefit of Mankind.

However, I hope, I may have leave to
say

The Preface.

Say this by the By further, that thro' the whole Work, I have industriously avoided all the Hard Terms of Art, that I could possibly omit, in order to make it the more Obvious and Useful to the meanest Capacity among my Readers.

Farewel.

*From my House in
Grange Court,
Little Lincoln's-
Inn Fields. Oct.
31. 1709.*

N. B.

N. B. This *Treatise* particularly sets forth,

I. *The Names of the Disease.*

II. *The Nature of the Thing.*

III. *The Causes of it.*

IV. *The Parts affected with it.*

V. *The Case of a Person so afflicted.*

VI. *The Cure, by Experience and Example.*

To my Worthy and Ingenious
Friend, Mr. FERN, Chi-
rurgeon.

Should I forbear, Dear Friend, to own thy Worth,
Infants and Cripples soon wou'd set it forth;
Such had I been, had You not, for your Part,
Done more than what is common in this Art.

V—kers may boast, He hath a Secret got,
And crack of mighty Cures he never wrought;
While You by Art and Practice have attain'd
The only way that th' EVIL e'er restrain'd.

First on Your Self the Method was allow'd,
On Others then by You with Care made good.
They stood amaz'd this dire Disease should yield,
By your Alcalious Diureticks heal'd;

All Tumors you discuss, and Ulcers cure;
Dispatch th' acutest Pains Men-sick endure;
As Pow'rful Sol his healing Warmth displays,
And swelling Clouds dispels with kindest Rays
Whether such Evils from the Parents come,
Or rather from Corrupted Chyle in some;
No Venome can withstand, nor Sore abide,
When your digestive Balsam is apply'd.

Proceed then FERN, and for the common Good,
Nature restore to it's untainted Blood.

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What


*What Maladies can then withstand thy Art,
Since thine Arcanum healeth ev'ry Part?
Just Fame will sure inspire a lively Pen
To sing thy Praises, 'mong diseased Men:
Since thy Rare Med'cines have Effective Pow'r
With perfect Ease to work the Noble Cure.*

J. GAYNAM

A

A
Perfect CURE
FOR THE
KING'S EVIL.

The Introduction.

’  IS well known, that many *Authors* of great *Learning* and *Experience*, have written particular *Treatises* of the *King's Evil*, with no less *Applause* to *Themselves* than *Instruction* to *Others*; highly *Useful* in all *Respects* towards finding out an *infallible Remedy* for the eradicating and curing of so growing and so grievous a *Disease*, beyond *Relapse*. ’Tis
B 2 also

also to be confess'd that they have not fail'd sometimes of good *Success*, or of working great *Cures* in this *Case*: But whether by *specifick Applications*, by *Accident*, by *God's Blessing*, by the *Royal Touch*, or any other *Arcanum*; is not so easie for me to distinguish and determine. However, I am positive, and it must be granted on the *other hand*, that the *King's Evil* has often been left off, by very many judicious *Professors* both of *Physick* and *Chirurgery*, as a Thing *incurable* in several of their languishing *Patients*; for although I do not look upon it to be the *Ludibrium Medicorum*, yet they have always found it, a very perplexing and puzzling *Dis-temper*. And therefore, though I shall not vaunt my self like the vain *Philosopher* with an *εὐρηκα*; that I have found out the *Difficulty* of all *Diseases*, or some *Wonder* or other of an *Universal Medicine*: Yet I have good Reason to persuade my self, both by *Practice* and *Experience*, that I long ago found a *Faithful Friend*; who cur'd Me effectually of an inveterate *Scrofula*, in spite of all popular *Discouragements*; and that I my self have also perfectly cur'd a
vast

vast many *Others* since of the like *Malady*, by the *same Means* or *Virtue* of the *same Particular Secret* : So that I think, I may now the more boldly publish my *Notions* of the *King's Evil*, in Print ; as well for the *Interest* and *Advantage* of all Mankind *afflicted* with it, as for my own *Satisfaction* and *Credit*. And *this* I shall endeavour to *perform* ingenuously, with *Submission* to all Men living of the *same Profession*, in a singular *Method* confirm'd to me, and experienc'd through a long *Practice* of many Years ; by shewing particularly in this *Treatise*, the *Name of the Disease*, the *Nature of the Thing*, the *Causes of it*, the *Parts affected with it*, the *Case of a Person so afflicted*, and the *Cure at last by Experience and Example* ; with general *Observations* and brief *Remarks* upon each Head of the Discourse, throughout the whole *Treatise*.

CHAP. I.

The NAME

First then; the *Name* of the *Disease* in the *Greek*, is either *χοιρὴς* or *κεῖρα*, according to *Hesychius*. The *First* [*χοιρὴς*] signifies a *Sow* or a *Hog*; as I suppose those *Creatures* have been thought by the *Ancients*, and are still reckon'd by some *Moderns* to be infested in a more peculiar manner with this *scrofulous Disease*: For in the *Throats* of *Swine*, we may often find such *strumous Tumors*, and the *Glandules* indurated. And 'tis no wonder neither that *Men* and *Brutes* should sometimes be troubled with the *same Distemper*; especially seeing they both agree in many other things of *Constitution* or *Humour*. Or else the *Word* signifies a *Rock* lying with a *Ridge* upon the top of the *Sea*, not much unlike a *Hog's Back*; and *this* may bear some *Analogy* also to a *Glandulous Tumor*: Whether the *Metaphor* be fetch'd either from the *Hardness*, the *Greatness*, or the *Figure* sometimes of the *Part* afflicted.

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The other *Name* of it in the *Greek Tongue* [Κράυρα] imports a dry, arid or inflam'd *Malignancy*; and, as if it were Κάυρα, *Torrid*, from καίω, *uro*, to burn. Now a hot, scurfy or friable *Inflammation* represents the Thing very properly to the *Eye*, and expresses the *Nature* of it exactly (as it often happens) to the very *Life*. But my Author *Hesychius* also says, it is likewise a *Disease of Bees*, and explains himself by this particular *Observation*; that *They* are troubled with it at the same time, when they breed *Worms* or make *Cob-webs*. However, be it as it will as to that matter, this *Word* shews the *Nature* of the Malady well enough in one *Respect* by *Heat* and *Friability*; though it does not answer yet for all the other *Qualities* of the whole *Evil*.

But besides, it has also *Two Names* in the *Latin Tongue*; for the *Grammarians* call it either by That of *Scrofula*, or That of *Struma*, indifferently, without any great *Distinction*: only that the *Former* is a diminutive *Word*, signifying a *Wen* in the Throat as well as a *Little*
Pig

Pig, from *Scrofa* an Old Sow; which seems to be a fictitious Name of that Creature, taken from the Sound of the Greek Word *γρομφας* (as *Hesychius* thinks) perhaps as delighting to grub up the Earth in Holes or Hillocks; and These indeed are Both sometimes very apt Denominations or near Resemblances at least of the King's Evil, by reason either of perforating Ulcers in one Respect, or exceeding large Tumors in the Other. But the Latter Word *Struma* differs a little from the Former; for it is derived from *Ruma*, a Teat or Dug, &c. which may be suck'd: either from *ῥύσμαι*, *traho* or *sugo* to suck; or from *ῥέω*, *fluo* to flow, as the Milk does in sucking; which holds some Analogy with the Curdling Matter of the King's Evil, like Cheese. And so the Grammarians say well, that *Struma* is as it were *struens Rumam*, making a Dug or Pap, because it rises up frequently in a Bump of that Shape or Figure; so that, in short, *Struma* is suppos'd to signify in general any Tumor, Botch or Wen, either in the Throat, Neck or Arm-holes; the Word coming immediately (as some think) from *σπῆμα*, which arises from *σπένδω*, *sterno*, to spread; because

cause the *Disease* might probably be observ'd formerly to *lie* and *spread* most under the *Throat*. And therefore by the same *Analogical Reason*, this *Term* may likewise very properly import, what we now call the *King's Evil*.

Now I must needs say, that *Either* or *Any* of these Words express the Thing very well as to the main Import of a *scrofulous* or *strumous Tumor*; and do not only give us some *Light* into the *Nature* of it, but also lead us in course to consider the *Disease* more essentially and fully than can be made out, by any nominal *Disquisition* or *Etymology*. But I beg leave here to make one *Digression* by the way, about our *English* Term for the *Struma* or *Scrofula*, as it is now commonly call'd the *King's Evil* in every Body's Mouth; before I begin to *define* what I have hitherto been only a describing by *Name*. And some *Writers* think that this *Name* was given to any *scrofulous* or *strumous Disease*, long before *Edward the Confessor's* Time; but however All agree at least, that from his Reign it was call'd nothing else *generally* (and I may say *vulgarly* too) but the *King's Evil*

in *England*. The *Reason* for so calling it is *Plain*; whether we believe the *miraculous Cure* of that Distemper in many Cases, to be an extraordinary *Blessing* of *God* bestow'd upon the *Kings* of *England*, *ab origine*, and so to continue as a powerful Faculty by *hereditary* Succession attending on the *Crown*: or whether we take this *Cure of the Evil* by the *Royal Touch* to have been no *Antienter* than *Edward the Confessor*, and that it was a peculiar *Gift* to *Him* at first, and to no Body before *Him*, as a singular *Reward* of his *Holiness*; to be by a kind of *hereditary Right* annex'd to *Regal Authority* for the future. The Matter is in *Dispute* still. But be it as it will, the *History* affords us ample *Testimony* and great *Authority* for calling this *Disease* by a *Royal Name*, *The King's Evil*; For, because it cannot be deny'd, but that wonderful *Cures* of it have been formerly wrought, by the Good *Kings* and *Queens* of *England*, and are still done by a continu'd *Series* even to this very Day: Not that I believe, *They* ever were, or perhaps ever may be troubled with the *Distemper* themselves; as the *Vulgar* in some *Countries* think at the first hearing of
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the *Name*. However, it must be granted on the other hand, that several Persons have never been the *better* for being *Touch'd*, nor ever receiv'd any greater *Benefit* by *this Means* than the *Gold* that was given 'em upon their Application; and yet it is certain *They* have afterwards been perfectly *cur'd* of the same Maladies, by the successful *Medicines* of good *Artists*: so that though *Chirurgery* may perhaps fail sometimes, where the *Royal Hand* performs the *Cure*; yet it has held as *true* also on the *contrary*, in Favour of the *other Side*, by many singular Instances.

Wherefore I hope, I may without any *Offence* either to the *Court*, the *City*, or the *Countrey*, either to *Princes* or *Professors*, take upon me to say, and *that* by long *Experience* too, for the publick Good; that let this *Disease* prove never so *Inveterate* or *Obstinate*, I am possess'd of such Sovereign and Effectual *Medicines* as will *cure* it perfectly by God's Blessing, when all other *Measures* or *Methods* fail.

CHAP. II.

The Nature of the EVIL.

SEcondly; As to the *Nature* of the *King's Evil*, several *Authors* have defin'd it several ways: but the best *Definition* that I can pretend to gather from 'em all, is *This* in brief. The *Scrofula*, is a *praternatural malignant Tumor or Humour*, produc'd by a *particular Acidity of the Serum of the Blood*; either in *Gland, Muscle or Membrane*, which it both *coagulates and indurates*; or in the *Marrow*, which it always *dissolves*, and also *putrefies the Bone*. But lest this *Definition* should want any further *Illustration*, I shall explain my self thus more at large, in a particular manner: Now 'tis plain, this *Acidity in the Serum of the Blood*, must needs occasion a very *Crafs, Glutinous and Acid Lympha* in the *Body*; which not finding any convenient or regular *Passage thro' its proper Channels*, presently stops in the *Glands or Elsewhere*, and sensibly *tumefies or indurates* the *Parts affected*: So that, in short,
by

by reason of this *Corrosive Quality*, the Distemper in time becomes Malignant, obdurate and very difficult to be cured; the *Lympha* being so *viscous* and so strongly settled in some extreme *Parts*, that it often proves the hardest thing in the World to *thin, rarifie* and *attenuate*, or take away such an *Obstruction*, of *sour, stagnating, coagulated Juices*. From hence it appears, that the *Acid Matter* whether contain'd *within* a *Cystis*, or Swelling elsewhere *without*, either in the *Salivatory Glands*, &c. in *One* Respect, or in thick *Upper Lips* chopt &c. in the *Other*; is the only Thing to be rectify'd or sweeten'd, in Order to effect a perfect Cure: And I cannot conceive how that can be done *radically*, save only by *Alcalious Medicines*, which is the *Nostrum* pretended to in my *Practice*: For otherwise the latent, habitual and inveterate *Corrosiveness* of the sharp indurated *Lympha*, which is the principal Cause of the *King's Evil*, will continually prove *Incorrigible* by all the *Art of Man*. And therefore the *Struma* being a *Disease* of that *rank* and *sour Nature*, it must be corrected and dulcify'd by sweet healing *Medicines*, as
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the most Powerful *Means* to bring the *Acid Humours* or *Juices* to their due *Tone*, as well as the *Constitution* to it's pristine or natural State of *Health* and *Vigour*.

But to give a more exact *Account* of the *Nature* of the Thing already *defin'd*, I think my self oblig'd to explain the true Meaning of the *Terms*, *Coagulation* and *Dissolution*, in this Place, as pat to the Purpose. Now by *Coagulation*, I mean an irregular *Curd'ling* or *Thick'ning* of the Blood by a real Privation of *Moisture*; so that I can compare it to nothing but that of making a *Curd* of Milk with *Rennet*. Now it is notorious that many *strumous Tumors*, being full of a white *curled Matter*, have a *Likeness* at least, if not also an *Affinity* with the *Curd* of Milk; which are *Both* alike occasion'd by a *coagulating Acidity*, though perhaps of a *different Nature*: and yet they must be *Both* very near as *acrimonious* as *Aqua fortis* or *Spirit of Vitriol*, to turn either the fibrous Parts of *Blood* or the gross Particles of *Milk* into a kind of *Cheese* or *curdled Matter* by a *coagulating Fermentation*.
To

To confirm this Notion, it will be sufficient to appeal to many *Patients*, whether they are not often sensible of the most painful *Corrosions*, next to the *gnawing of Dogs*; which must needs proceed from a sort of a sharp *vitriolick Acidity*, that *stops, coagulates and corrodes* the Part so affected, or indeed rather afflicted, with this *Malady*.

But on the *other hand*; the *Reason* why I ascribe *Dissolution* to the same *Acidity*, is *this*: Because whenever it comes to the *Marrow*, and mixes with the *Fibres* of the *Bone*, it *dissolves* and rots 'em in all *Persons*; for every *Body* knows that *One* and the *same Cause* may have different *Effects*, according to the *Nature* of the *Subject Matter* that is wrought upon; for it is a true *Maxim*, that *Whatever is received, is receiv'd according to the Quality or Nature of the Receiver*; As for Instance, the *Sun* melts *Butter* and hardens *Clay*; and *Vinegar* coagulates *Milk*, but dissolves an *Egg*, *White* and *Shell* and all. Thus in like manner does our *strumous Acidity* operate divers ways; for when it falls upon the *Serum of the Blood*, then follows *Coagulation* in the
fibrous

fibrous Parts of it, and so it proceeds *uncorrected* to the furthest Members of the Body: But when it penetrates the *Bone* and gets into the *Marrow*, it has a quite contrary *Effect*; and is so far from indurating or hardening them, that it *dissolves* and *putrefies* the very *Hardness* or *Consistency* that it meets with *there*.

And thus, in short, having set forth the *Nature* of the *Struma*, whether as a *Tumor* or *Ulcer*; whether in the *Glands* or *elsewhere*, by as clear a *Light* as I could fetch, either from *Authority* or *Reason*; I shall now take upon me in Order of my *Discourse*, to enquire into the various *Causes* of it.

CHAP. III.

The CAUSES of it.

THirdly; I suppose by this time no Man will deny, that the *Præternatural Acidity* of the *Serum* of the *Blood*, is the immediate Cause of the *King's Evil*; as it renders the whole *Lympha* acrimonious and indurated, and thereby produces a *Crafs*, *Glutinous*, *Coagulated* Matter in several Parts of the Body. But as to the *Mediate* or more *Remote Causes* of the *Scrofula*, there are a great many assign'd by the *Learned*; to make it either *Hereditary* from the *Parents*, or *Accidental* from *Air*, *Diet*, *Exercise*, &c.

'Tis as manifest, as the Nose upon a Man's Face, that the *Children* of *Scrophulous* or *Strumous Parents*, are commonly liable to the same *Distemper*; and so are *Those* that suck the *Milk* of such diseas'd *Nurses*. Now this argues the *Malady* to be deeply imprinted upon the whole *Mass* of *Blood*, or naturally im-

D

planted

planted in the very *Constitutions* of some Persons; seeing that it may be, and often is so traduc'd, and entail'd by *Parents*, thus afflicted and never cur'd, upon their *Posterity*.

And here I cannot omit one *Observation* by the By; that *Children* also who are begotten at improper Times of the *Moon*, have been often subject to be afflicted with *This Evil*, and to the last Degree too of *Virulency*. Let this be a *Warning* to *Marry'd* People.

But besides *These*, there are some *Persons* whose natural *Temper of Blood* being very *Acid*, and the *Serum* by that means very apt to *coagulate*, are generally *Obnoxious* to it; as *Children* troubled with the *Rickets*, and all *Others* that are *Weakly*, or in whom the *Heat* is not strong enough for a regular *Digestion*.

People likewise may be made very liable to *Scrofulous* crude Humours and Tumors by the *Indisposition* of *Place*; That is, by living always in Extremes of *Air*, either too *thin* or too *thick*, too
keen

keen or too gross: For the *Air* is as it were *pabulum vitæ*, and must needs have as peculiar an *Influence* upon our Bodies, as our daily *Food* has without Dispute. Besides, *salt, sour, slimy Meats* or *Drinks* may often occasion the *King's Evil*; sharp or fulsom *Diet* naturally disposing the *Body* to such a desperate *corroding Disease*: And we can expect no better *Effect* from so bad a *Cause*. And so will the *Want of Exercise* sometimes render the *Blood Corrosive* and full of *Slime* or *phlegm* or a stagnated *Acidity*; where the *Body* frequently falls into the same *Distemper*, and becomes troubled with hard *Glandulous Flesh*, white *Tumors* or fore *Ulcers* all over the *Body*. But besides yet, there are *Thousands* and *Thousands* of other *Accidents* also, that may produce this malignant *Disease*, in a *Body* thus predispos'd for it, either by *Ill Habits* or *Irregular Acts*.

However yet I must needs grant, that there are various *Opinions* among divers *Authors* about the *True Causes* of the *King's Evil*. Some think that it proceeds from the *Succus Nutritius*, being disorder'd in those that feed too much

upon *slimy Meats* ; whose Phlegmatick, Cold and weak *Digestions*, create a great Mass of crude *Humours* ; which being carry'd thence to those distant *Parts affected*, become Hard, Fixt and Unfit for any *Suppuration*. Others again have fancy'd, that the *Imagination* being mightily disturbed by *Want, Sadness* or *Melancholy* ; it weakens and disorders the *Digestive Faculty* in the *Stomach* ; and so consequently at long run, produces those knotty *Tumors*, we find in *Scrofulous Patients* : But this seems to be *Ridiculous*. There are Some yet that say, the *Viscous Nature* of the *Succus Nervorum* must needs be the very *Immediate Efficient Cause* of those *strumous Tumors* in the *Salivatory Glands* ; for that the *thick Juice* lying there long, grows harder and harder by *coagulating*, and cannot pass at last, by reason of its *Induration*. However, we find Others again of a quite different *Opinion* ; who ascribe the *Cause* of it to a *coagulated Phlegm* or a *sour Blood* in the very *Part affected* : where the *thick Acid Juices* are *obstructed*, grow *stiff* or *obdurate*, and magnifie to the last *Extremity* of *Rancour* or *Foulness*. But Some, on the other hand, will

will have it to arise immediately from a *Crafs Lympha* or *Phlegmatick Humour*, which stops in some *Part* for want of a due *Passage* or *Evacuation*, and *tumefies* there into what we call it the *Struma*. However, after all yet, the best and most plausible *Opinion* I have met with, seems to be *This*; that the *Scrofula* comes originally from the *Chyle* being *distemper'd*; which by some bad *Fermentation* or other growing *Sour*, *Acid* and *Corrosive*, afterwards affects the *Mesentery-Glands* in this manner; and so by consequence the *Lympha* being *corrupted* at first, can never after that be good for any thing in any other *Part* of the *Body*, but only to provide a *Patient* for some *Person* or other, that can cure the *King's Evil*.

THE

The AUTHOR's Opinion.

AS for my Part, I cannot but believe, that the *King's Evil*, taking it à *primâ origine*, certainly proceeds from an extraordinary *Acidity* in the *First Digestion*; which *Vice* is never afterwards corrected by the *Second, Third, Fourth, &c*: but conveys its *Malignity* further, and at once of course spoils the *Chylus*, sharpens the *Blood*, and corrupts the whole *Lympha*. This is what in my Judgment always occasions those *strumous Tumors* or *Ulcers*, happen where they will in the Body, as the *Causa sine qua non*; the very *Source* and *Beginning* of the *Malady*: And what *Artist* soever can perfectly *rectifie* that vicious *Acidity* in the *First Digestion*, by *Alcalious Effectual Medicines*, must necessarily *Cure* the *Distemper* in Course; and as naturally *accomplish* the *Work*, and with as much *Truth* too, as it is to take away the *Effect* by removing the *Cause*: Which is the main thing, in short, of my *Pretension*.

But

But perhaps some People may judge better yet of this vast, spreading and extensive *Evil*, by my saying something of the *Parts* commonly *affected*; and shewing particularly how they are concern'd, and how they labour or languish, under the heavy *Oppression*.

CHAP. IV.

The PARTS *Affected*.

Fourthly; Now the *Parts* that are most frequently afflicted with the *Struma*, I reckon to be the *Glandules* (that have sometimes pass'd under the Comical Allusive Name of the *Sow* and *Pigs*) the *Muscles*, *Membranes*, *Tendons* and *Bones*. The *Viscera* likewise often suffer by't; but if the *Nerves* or *Brain* are ever touch'd or tainted with any *scrofulous Humour*, the *Juices* of those *Parts* are dissolv'd, not *coagulated* nor *tumefy'd*, as I said before of the *Marrow* and the *Bones*: For I have never yet observ'd any *Tumors* either in the *Nerves*

OR

or the *Brain*, but only those *Parts* wasted and grown *Carious* by the *Corrosion* of the vicious *Humours*, and more inclin'd to *Putrefaction* than any obdurate *Consistency*.

However, the *Part* that is usually first affected with this *Malady*, proves to be the *Mesentery*; for it has often been found by undeniable *Experience* that the *Mesenterick Glands* have been inwardly *strumous*, both as to *Obstruction* and *Tumour*; when at the same time, there have appear'd no visible *Symptoms* of any such *Malignity* upon the *outward Glands*: Nor indeed has there been any such *scrofulous* Disposition of *Humour* at all there in *Reality*. And then again we may depend upon't, that whenever the *external Glands* are obstructed and swell'd, the *Mesentericks* are certainly afflicted in like manner: So that there's no doubt but the *Mesentery* is commonly the *first Part* affected and spoil'd by a *corrosive Acidity* of this Kind.

But the *Glands*, after all is said, are the *principal Seat* of the *King's Evil*; info-

insomuch, that some of the *Antients* restrain'd the *Disease* to those *Parts* only, as if no *other* had been *subject* to't: And yet we find many more *Places* notoriously *affected* with it to a violent degree. However, considering that there are several sorts of *Glandules*, whether *Conglobate* or *Conglomerate* (as some call 'em); I cannot but think, that those we term *Reductive*, which serve for the *Percolation* of the *Lympha*, must needs be most afflicted of all *others*: For why? whenever the *Serum* or the *Lympha* is so disorder'd and grown *Acid*, those *Glands* that perform the Office of *Aqua-ducts*, or *Conduits*, will doubtless *suffer* extremely, either by *Obstruction*, or by *Corrosion*, or *both*. Now when the *Parts* thro' which the *Lympha* should pass pure and regular, are so *tumefy'd* and *stopp'd up*, we may depend upon it to be an *infallible Symptom* of the *King's Evil*.

However yet, no *Place* of the *Body* more frequently and visibly abounds with *strumous Coagulations*, than the *Neck* quite around; which being *Bare*, especially in *Women*, is more expos'd to the Sharpness of the *Cold Weather*; and that

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Quali-

Quality of the *Air*, without doubt, hugely helps on the *Acid Matter* to stagnate or lodge there, as well as it aggravates the *Evil* in this particular *Part*.

But to proceed ; the *Breasts*, the *Armpits*, the *Lungs* themselves, the *Salivals*, and the *Tonsils* are also sometimes miserably troubl'd with *Scrofulous Tumors* ; as will evidently appear to the Eye of any *Common Practicer*.

Neither are the *Glands* in the *Groyn* always free from this *Malady*, nor the *Testicles*, nor the *Prostate*, which are two *Glandules* under the *Seminal Bladders* ; tho' it is a little *difficult* sometimes to distinguish those *Tumors* from the *Effects* of another base suspected *Distemper*.

So much for the *Natural Glands* ; but now there are besides *those*, several *Adventitious Praternatural* ones, occasion'd by this *Disease* ; which arise visibly infected with the same *Rancour*, in the *Face*, *Arms*, *Legs*, *Skin*, *Muscles* and *Membranes* ; no, and sometimes spreading over the whole *Body*, from *Head* to *Hands* and *Feet*, *Fingers* and *Toes* ; not excepting the very *Viscera* themselves from being frequently

frequently in some Cafes afflicted with *Strumous Swellings*.

As to the *Affection* of the *Bones*, 'tis notoriously well known, that setting aside the *Glands*, they are as much troubled (I might say, *tormented*) with this *corroding Disease*, as any other *Parts* of the *Body*; not to say *more*. But then these are very *distinct* from all *Glandulous Tumors*; for tho' the *Bone* may seem *outwardly* hard and sound, yet the *Juices* are all putrefy'd and rotten *within* at the same time. However, *Bones* will be often also *externally*, as well as *internally* affected with this *venemous Humour*; which always either *bare* them, or makes 'em very *Carious* and much *Corrupted*: And this commonly happens by the *Contiguity* of some *Membrane* or *Tendon* sorely afflicted with this *Acidity* that infects the adjacent *Parts*, or the very *Bones* themselves. And indeed, how frequently are the *Tendons* likewise troubl'd with a gross *Gumminess*, or a thick Mass of *Scrofulous Matter*? 'Tis palpable from the *Elbows*, *Knees* and *Ankles*; or, in short, from all the *Joynts* of the *Body* thus distemper'd.

In fine, what miserable *Objects* do we daily meet with, even at Death's Door, wasted to meer *Skeletons*, by languishing under this lingring *Disease* in all *Parts* of the *Body*; for want of effectual *Medicines* to heal those *sick* and *wounded* poor Souls! But the Consideration of this leads me directly to the singular *Case* of *a Person so afflicted*, and as *so*rely too, even absolutely despair'd of by several Eminent *Practisers*; who was yet perfectly cur'd, to Admiration, by the Blessing of *Almighty God*, and the *Means* of a Powerful *Medicine*: *Such* a one, as hath not fail'd since also of the same good *Success* of working as *Great Cures* upon others, by its Sovereign *Alcalious Virtue*.

C H A P V.

Of a PERSON so afflicted.

F*ifthly* then; the *Case* will be *this*: when I was about Seven Years of Age, at *Kingsley* in *Staffordshire*, it so happen'd, that a large *Scrofulous* or *Strumous Tumor* arose in my *Left Breast*; which afflicted me very much, and in a violent manner
too:

too: Upon which, a Neighbouring *Surgeon* of Note being sent for, he first made use of *Cataplasms* to break it, and then apply'd several Suppurating *Emplastres*; but all to little or no *Purpose*, save only, that he entertain'd some *Hopes* still of doing me good. However, afterwards he ply'd me over and over with *Catharticks* and *Emeticks*, besides other outward Applications, in order to *discuss* or *dissolve* the impacted *Humour*: And this *Treatment* lasted a whole Year, but without any greater Success; for I remain'd still in as bad a *Condition*, and as *Languid* as ever.

After this, a second *Surgeon* was immediately imploy'd; who having diligently *dress'd* me about a Year, at last brake the *Swelling*, and also perfectly *heal'd* it to every Bodys thinking; but then it prov'd to be only a palliative *Cure*, for in less than a Month's time, another large *Tumor* fell into my *Left Thigh*; which yet cost both *him* and *my self* a great deal of Trouble for above a Year, before ever we could perceive it any *better*. And when we did find it pretty well, as far as we could judge external-ly,

ly, it lasted but for a small time ; for in six Weeks after, my *Left Foot* and *Ankle* appear'd *swol'n* to a vast *Bigness* : inso-much, that a *third Surgeon* then was sent for, who, in less than a *Year's time*, indeed, by what *Methods* he us'd, effectually *brake* it in *Twenty Places* at least ; but however, having *dress'd* it still on for above a *Year* and a half, without any *Amendment*, he gave it over as *Labour* in vain, and ingenuously advis'd my *Friends* to send me to one of the *Hospitals* in *London*. And accordingly I was carry'd thither at last in a *Horse-Litter*, not being able to *travel* any other way. Immediately after my *Arrival here* from the *Country*, I was carry'd to *St. Bartholomew's Hospital*, a miserable Object then as I was with the *King's Evil* ; where the *Best Surgeons* had no sooner view'd my *Thigh* and *Foot*, but they found them as *Cavous* as *Cony-buries*, and putrefy'd to the very *Bone* ; so that, in short, they gave us very little *Encouragement* of a *Perfect Cure*, or indeed, of any other *Relief* ; even so far from it, that they did not design to *dress* me, till my *Father* importun'd them to do it in common *Compassion*.

To

To be brief, I was under *their Hands*, and other Eminent *Surgeons*, for full Eleven Years or upwards; and one of them, indeed, had healed my *Thigh* in that time: But then my *Foot* continu'd as *bad* as ever, not to say *worse*. Whereupon, *two* or *three* of the *Hospital-Surgeons* consulted about it; and despairing of any *Cure*, were absolutely unanimous for *Amputation*. I readily agreed to't, how unwillingly soever; and the Day was fix'd. Upon this, my *Father* asking them, if the *Cutting-off* my *Leg* would secure the *Distemper* from *breaking out* again in any other Part of my *Body*? *They* told him flatly, That they could *secure* nothing; it might break out again in a Month's time, for any thing they knew to the contrary.

Now, by this time, my whole *Body* was so *emaciated* and *weak*, that I could not support my self without my *Crutches*, and I had not set my *Left Foot* to the Ground for near *Seven Years*. But, as *Providence* would have it, before the Day came that was fix'd for *cutting off* my *Leg*, we were well recommended to one Mr.

Joseph

Joseph Turner, a considerable Surgeon; who gave us greater *Hopes*, and the comfortable *Encouragement* of a *Cure*, without *Amputation*. In short, he pass'd his word, that I should, in all Probability, be perfectly *well* within a Years time; and according to his Promise, I soon found my self, by his *Management* and *Medicines*, in the direct way to be restor'd to my *Limbs* and *Health*, beyond *Relapse*; for in a *Quarter of a Year*, I perceiv'd my self infinitely *better*, and could set my *Foot* to the *Ground*; in a *Quarter* more, a large *Pill-Box* full of *foul Bones* came away from the ulcerated *Parts*, and several of the *Ulcers* were quite *healed up*; in about *three Quarters* time, I could easily walk about without my *Crutches*; and before the *Year* was expir'd, I was perfectly well *recover'd*, and bound an *Apprentice* to the very same Mr. Turner (an *excellent Surgeon*) for Seven Years. And now I could not but think my self *Happy*, and bless GOD, that I had fall'n into such *effectual* and good *Hands* in both *Respects*.

An Account of the AUTHOR'S
MASTER.

BUT to go on ; during my whole *Apprenticeship*, I observ'd that my *Master* had all sorts of *Practice* ; but more especially in *Scrofulous*, or *Venereal Cases*. He had a *Great Name* for either of those *Distempers*. He cur'd abundance of *Patients*, of both *Sexes* and of all *Ages*, without one Grain of *Mercury* ; even after they had been given over by many other *Eminent Professors*, as well as ignorant *Pretenders*. He did not administer many *Catharticks* , and very few *Emeticks* ; but gave *Diureticks* in abundance. *His external Applications* likewise were quite different from what I ever then saw, or heard of since that *Time*. Besides, I prepar'd all the *Medicines* he made use of with my own Hands for several Years ; and I am morally certain, there is not an *Ounce* of the same *Medicines*, either *External* or *Internal* , prepar'd by any *Person* but my *Self* in *London* to this very Day : As I

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could easily prove by the *Druggists*, upon Occasion.

However it must needs be granted, that there are of late Days started up several Great *Pretenders*; who, according to their own *Report* and *Ostentation*, have effectually *Cur'd* many Persons of *scrofulous Diseases*: And I heartily wish only, that they *did* thoroughly understand what they *pretend* to with so much *Assurance*; for *then* I should not be troubled with half so many deplorable *Patients*, as I daily meet with in a languishing Condition, who have generally been tamper'd with by *Empericks*, labour'd under *Five* or *Six* Hands (or as *many* as I my self was under formerly) and to as little *Effect*. And therefore give me leave to say, that though the *Distemper* is bad enough at the *first Appearance* of it, yet it might be happily *Cur'd* in a great deal less Time, if that pernicious *Corrosive Humour* was not suffer'd to lurk so long, under unskilful Hands, as to destroy the *Flesh* and foul the *Bones*: For upon my Word, there is not One *Patient* in Ten, but I find him either so neglected or abus'd, that for want of be-

ing duly or skilfully manag'd at *first*, I am commonly forc'd to wait for *Exfoliation* with Patience, before I can perfect the *Cure*. But besides, I have *Cur'd* several Persons in the *remote Parts* of this Kingdom, upon receiving an exact Account of their *Malady* by *Letters*, in far less Time, than *Those* I dress every Day, in and about *London*; and I cannot ascribe This to any other *Reason*, but because I had the good Fortune to be their *first Surgeon*.

And moreover, my *Medicines* are also as Prevalent and Expeditious in *Venereal Cases*, to Admiration: For indeed they are so Powerful, and Successful, by the Blessing of *God*, that I have cur'd several sad *Spectacles* of the most virulent *Ulcers*, whose *Bodies* have been cover'd all over with *Scurf*, *Scabs* and *Spots* innumerable as well as frightful to the *Beholder*. One troubled with a *Leprosy*, has very lately return'd me his *Thanks* for his being perfectly *Cur'd*, and as well as ever he was in his *Life*. I have at this time also *Two* more *Leprous Patients* under my *Care*; the *One* of 'em almost *well* already: And I do not question but to accomplish the

Cure of 'em *Both* quickly, to the Satisfaction of the World. But this brings me to the last *particular Head* of my *Treatise*: That is, to set forth *some* of the many *Cures* of the *King's Evil*, which I have already *wrought* with my own Hands.

CHAP. VI.

*The CURE by Experience
and Example.*

S*ixthly*, in fine, to conclude this *Tract*, I humbly conceive, that nothing can be more *Credible* or *Certain* than *Matter of Fact*; confirm'd by undeniable *Experience* and *Testimony*: The *Truth* of which will appear best by the following *Instances*.

I. The *first Patient* I had, *April 6th*, 1691. was Mr. *Chandley's* Only Daughter of *Shacklewel* near *Kingsland*; she was about *six Years* of Age; both her *Hands* were full of *Ulcers* and *foul Bones*; which I perfectly cur'd in about a *Year's Time* with my *Digestive Balsam*, upon giving her at the same time my *Alcalious* and *Diuretick Medicines* internally: By virtue whereof, I so rectify'd the *Corrosive Humours*, and sweeten'd the whole *Mass* of *Blood*, that she has continu'd very well ever since without any *Relapse*.

II. The

II. The Second Daughter of Mr. *Crips*, at the *Golden Crown* near *Half Moon-Alley* in *Bishopsgate-street*, was afflicted with several *strumous Tumors* and *Ulcers* in both her *Arms*. This *Patient* being nearly related to the former, I undertook her after great *Discouragements* of other *Surgeons*; dress'd her *Sores* with my great *Digestive Balsam*, and the *Tumors* with my powerful *Discussive Emplaister*: So that by their *Application*, together with my internal *Alcalious* and *Diuretick Medicines*, I effectually cur'd her within the *Compass* of one Year.

III. Mr. *Biddle*, Joyner, in *Portugal-street* near *Lincolns-Inn*, was miserably diseased with many *scrofulous Tumors* and *Ulcers* in his *Head*, *Neck* and *Back*; having had the best *Advice*, in vain, for above *Twenty five Years*: Whom I restor'd to a good *State of Health*; having heal'd all the *Parts* affected, by the aforesaid *Method* and *Medicines*. Be pleased to enquire of *Mrs. Jackson* at the *Bell and Dragon* in the same *Street*.

IV. A

IV. A young Woman about Sixteen Years of Age, Niece to one Mr. *Wood* of *Whitecross-street*, had most violent Tumors and Evil Sores in both her Jaws, from Ear to Ear; all which I effectually heal'd and cur'd, as before, in half a Year's Time. You may hear of Her at Mrs. *Thornton's*, a *Millener*, near *Shoreditch-Church*.

V. A Daughter of Mr. *Mason* in *Cook's Court* near *Lincolns Inn*, had been afflicted a long while with a large strumous Tumor on the small of her Back; inso-much that the *Vertebres* or *Spondyles* were mightily distorted, and She had no manner of Strength in the lower Parts of her Body, nor any Use of her Legs. Upon this, I was earnestly desir'd by Mrs. *Moor*, a Neighbour of Hers, at the Bible over against *Lincolns-Inn Back-Gate*, to go and see Miss *Mason*; where, at the Door, I heard an Eminent Physician and a Surgeon, under whose Hands she had been a considerable Time, tell Mr. *Mason* plainly, that all the Means in the World could not save her Life; for that the spinal Marrow of her Back-Bone was wasting.

wasting. However, after *They* were gone, I went up to see her, through many *Importunities*; and finding some *Hopes* yet of her *Recovery*, I undertook the *Cure*, with much ado, and perform'd it with Success in less than half a Year's time; After which, in short, *She* soon took a *Journey* to *Bristol*, without any *ill Consequence*, and continues still in a perfect State of *Health* and *Vigour*.

VI. Mrs. *Stephens*, Furrier and Fan-maker, over against *Surrey-street* end in the *Strand*, was a great while troubled with a large *strumous Tumor* in her *right Leg*. *She* had the *Advice* of several eminent *Surgeons*; who One and All, told her that the *Bone* was *foul*, and ought to be laid open by a *Caustick*: Upon which, I was sent for by one of the Neighbours; where I found her Cousin *Jones* an eminent *Apothecary* in *Lombard Street*; by whose Approbation and Request, I presently undertook the *Cure*, which I perfected in a little above half a Year, with my afore said *Internal* and *External Medicines*.

strefs *Dutton*; at whose earnest Request, I undertook to *cure* him. And accordingly I perform'd my *Promise*, by my above-mention'd *Medicines* and *Management*, in about Five Months. N. B. He now keeps the *Two Blew Posts and Anchor* in *Arundel-Street*.

X. Mr. *John Denby*, in *Devereux-Court*, was violently tormented with a painful *malignant Ulcer* in one of his *Legs* for above Seven Years. He had been *dress'd* by three able *Surgeons* a long while, without any *Success*, so that I was importun'd at last, by Mrs. *Dutton*, before-mention'd; to go and look upon him. In short, he begg'd me at *first sight* (if I would do any thing for him) to *cut off* his *Leg*; but having undertaken him, according to my *usual Method*, without any such *Violences*, I perfectly *cur'd* him of the *Sore*, within the *Compass* of Half a Year; and he hath enjoy'd the *Right Use* of his *Leg* ever since.

XI. A Daughter of Mr. *Davis*, in *Stanhop-street*, near *Clare-Market*, being sorely afflicted with a *strumous Tumor*, very large and painful, in her *Face*; I
was

was employ'd, and thereupon I brought it to *Suppuration* in a small time, with my strong *Digestive Balsam*; so that by the Help of my prevalent *Internals*, I accomplish'd the *Cure* with *Dispatch*.

XII. Mr. *John Bridges*, of the *Six Clerks Office*, sent for me about Three Years ago, to his Chambers in *New-Inn*, there to advise with me about his Brother *Thomas Bridges*, of *Herefordshire*, then in Town; who was troubled with a violent *Scrofula* in all the extreme Parts of his Body; and the *Humour* was so corrosive in the *Palms* of his *Hands*, that that several of his *Fingers* were contracted, and had been so a considerable Time. And therefore, upon his requesting me to do what I could for his Brother, withall *Expedition*: I undertook him immediately, and treated him as I us'd to do in such like Cases; with so much Success, that in a short time I perfectly freed him from that ugly *Distemper*, and made his *Skin* as clear and smooth as ever.

XIII Mr. Underwood, an able Apothecary, overagainſt Devonſhire Square without Biſhopsgate, entreated me to take his Son in hand, who was forely diſtemper'd with the Evil in his Jaws, where he had ſeveral Strumous Tumors, and grievous Ulcers, and likewiſe the ſame in his Legs, with which he had been ſadly afflicted for Thirteen or Fourteen Years: Whereupon, I went to work with him; manag'd him as uſually, and in leſs than three Quarters of a Years time, I cur'd both his Tumors and Ulcers.

XIV. In the Year 1704, Mr. John Buck, a young Gentleman, about Fourteen Years old, was recommended to me for a Patient, who had been diſeaſ'd Seven Years with a large Strumous Tumour in the Glands under the Left Jaw, beſides a thick Scrofula over all his Body. He had been a great while under the Care both of Phyſicians and Chirurgeons, but without any Succeſs at all; ſo that they were going at laſt to lay open the Part affected, by Inciſion: Upon which, his Father ſent for me to the Garter-Coffee-Houſe in Thread-Needle-Sttee, and there

there agreed with me to undertake the *Cure* of his *Son* at Bed and Board in my own House; whom accordingly I did entertain and treat so successfully, that within the Compass of about a Year, I perfectly restor'd him from that *Distemper*; nothing of any *Acid Humour* remaining, nothing ever *ebbing* or *flowing* in the *Glands* for these Four Years last past; but only the *Cystis* a little *bigger* than ordinary, which does not in the least detract from the *Cure*.

N. B. This young Man is now an *Apprentice* to Mr. Amy a Gold-Smith, at the Black Boy on London Bridge, near Tooley-Street in Southwark.

XV. Mr. Crook, Perriwig-maker, at Lincoln's-Inn-Gate, next Shear-Lane, having a Son sorely afflicted with the *King's Evil*, but especially in his Neck; who had also lost the Use of his Right Arm and Hand by it; desir'd me to dress it, and to take him under my Care: Which I accordingly did, and by means of my *Alcalious Medicines*, &c. I heal'd his Sores, brought him to a right Use of the Parts affected, and restor'd him to his perfect Health out of Hand.

XVI.

XVI. Mr. *Brooks*, a *Portugal* Merchant, had been *diseas'd* Fourteen Years with several *Scrofulous Tumors* and *Ulcers* in his *Head* and *Neck*, in so violent a manner, that *he* had follow'd the *Advice* of several *Doctors* and *Surgeons* about his *Malady*, for many Years, to little or no Purpose. However, I effectually *cur'd* him in Sixteen Weeks time, or thereabouts, as can be attested by several Credible Persons in *Portugal-Street*, near *Lincoln's Inn*; where the Gentleman formerly lodg'd, and was well known in the Neighbourhood.

XVII. Mr. *Homp's* Child, of *Hampstead*, about three Years old, being grievously troubled with the *Evil*, inso-much, that she had lost the *Use* of her *Left Hand*: Mr. *Akres*, at the *Three Tuns*, sent for me to undertake *her* in this Condition; which I did, with much *Entreaty*, after several other *Surgeons* had told her *Father*, that her *Hand* must be laid open. But *she* having Patience, I perfectly *cur'd* her, by the Blessing of God upon my Powerful *Medicines*, and *she* now enjoys the *right Use* of that *Part*, as well as a complete State of *Health*.

XVIII. One

XVIII. One Mr. *Harris*, being miserably afflicted with several *Strumous Ulcers*, of great Malignancy, in one of his *Legs*, occasion'd at first, as I perceiv'd, by a *Compound Fracture*: He had consulted with Two or Three Able *Surgeons*; and one of 'em had dress'd him for a considerable time, without the least Sign of *Amendment*. It seems, Sir *John Hollis* of *Lincoln's Inn*, with whom Mr. *Harris* then liv'd, had employ'd the fore-said *Surgeons*, but they could give him no *Hopes* of any *Cure*, and propos'd the *Cutting off* his *Leg*: Whereupon, Mr. *Gibbons* in *Portugal-street*, near *Lincoln's Inn*, recommended me to the Business, and I undertook it by Sir *John Hollis's* own Order; so that, to be brief, I perfectly cur'd my *Patient*, and heal'd all his *Sores* in less than half a Years time. Upon this Success, I also undertook to cure his Son of a large white Swelling in the *Knee*, that had occasion'd a great *Contraction* in his *Ham*; the *Cure* of which uncommon *Tumour* (being the most difficult of all others to work upon effectually) was accomplish'd by my Powerful *Medicines* within a few Months. This same
Mr.

Mr. *Harris* now liveth with the *Portugal* Embassador in Great *Lincoln's Inn-Fields*.

XIX. Mrs. *Prat*, being about Four Years ago, almost *distracted* with a vast painful *Swelling*, and several *Ulcers* in one of her *Breasts*, she had the *Advice* of several *Surgeons*; one of whom told her, That he was fearful of the *Cure*, and truly his *Opinion* was, that it must be *cut off*. Now Mr. *Prat* speaking of *this* to Mr. *Jackson*, at the *Bell and Dragon* near *Lincoln's Inn*, I was immediately sent for, undertook it, and *digested* the sharp *Humour* in Twenty Four Hours, so that she was sensibly *eas'd*, to the great Satisfaction of the good Family; and in a short time afterwards, I *discuss'd* the *Tumor* in the *Glands*, *heal'd* all the *Ulcers*, and made her perfectly well. In short, *she* has had two fine *Children* since, without any the least *Sign* or *Symptom* of the like *Malady*.

XX. Mr. *May's* Son in *Devereux-Court*, near the *Temple*, about Seventeen Years of Age, was grievously *tormented* with a large *white Swelling* in his *Left Thigh*,
spread-

spreading from his *Hip* to his *Knee*, with a *Contraction*. He had the *Advice* of an *Hospital Surgeon*, and another who was his *Relation*, a great while, with little *Success*: Whereupon, Mrs. *Dutton* his Aunt, recommended the *Cure* of it to my *Care*; which, with much ado, I undertook, when I found him in a *Hectick Fever*, his *Body* emaciated, and his *Thigh* so monstrously distended with the painful *Tumor*, that it drew him in his *Bed* as crooked as a *Bow*. And likewise he had not slept for several *Weeks* thro' the *Anguish* of the *Distemper*. However, upon giving him my *Alcalious Medicines* internally and applying my strong *Digestive* externally, he slept well the second *Night*, and in a few *Days* time, his *Fever* was quite abated, his *Swelling* all suppurated to a wonderful *Discharge* of *Matter*, and the *Man himself* was perfectly restor'd to his former *Strength* and *Vigour* in less than half a *Year*, and is now *Drawer* at the *Bell Tavern* in *Westminster*.

XXI. A Son of Mr. *Garraway's*, at the *South Entrance* of the *Royal Exchange*, was desperately afflicted with the *King's Evil* in both his *Eyes*; whom, after he

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had been *tamper'd* with a considerable time in vain by *one* that is no *Surgeon*, and yet disingenuously pretends to *cure* this *Distemper*. I willingly undertook him to shew my *Practice*. I found him in this *Condition*. His *Left Eye* was *bound* up, and the *other* wonderfully *weak*, being overloaded with a filthy *Acid Humour*. However, he had not us'd my *Digestive Balsam* above Six times, but he could open his *worst Eye*; and at the End of one Month, I espy'd him at *Play* in the *Streets* without any *thing* over *either* of 'em, and his *Sight* tolerably *strong*. In a word, *he* is now very *well*, and will *so* continue, I dare say, if he can be persuaded by his *Parents* to take my *Alcalious Medicine* internally, to take away the *Cause*, otherwise the *Effect* cannot *totally cease*.

XXII. I cannot, without being injurious to the *Publick*, forbear mentioning *one Instance* more of a young *Gentleman*, about Nineteen Years of Age, whose *Condition* was more deplorable and desperate than I have either yet *set down*, or ever *saw* in all my *Practice*: For, besides the *Evil*, with which he was forely *afflicted*, he was also full of *Pain* to the
last

last Extremity, and *Convulsive* from the Crown of the Head to the Sole of the Foot, infomuch, that he had three or four Persons constantly to attend him Day and Night, for above two Months successively; who were all forc'd to hold him in his strong *Convulsion Fits*, which were almost as *innumerable* as they were *violent*. He had not been in his *Bed* for above Six Weeks together, Night nor Day, so that the *Physicians* and *Surgeons* left him in this languishing Condition, without any manner of Hopes of *Recovery*, after having given him abundance of *Medicines* for several Years without any *Success*. At last, the young Gentleman's *Father* came to my House upon this Occasion, to know my *Method* and *Terms* for curing the *Evil*; of both which I gave him a particular and satisfactory *Account*, and so accordingly I waited upon him in the *City* the next Day; where I found his *Son* in the most desperate *State of Health*, as aforesaid. Indeed, I was very much surpriz'd at first, when I saw him in so great an *Agony* with *Convulsion Fits*; and having heard nothing of *them* before, I was unwilling to prescribe any thing, altho' we had a-

greed for the *Cure*; but being requested over and over by his *Father*, to try my *Medicines*, I forthwith gave him my *Alcalious Pills*, and apply'd some *Externals*; which had so good an Effect upon my *Patient*, that we got him to *Bed* the *Fourth Night*. His *Convulsions* abated every Moment, both in their *Frequency* and *Violence*; so that in a Fortnights time he *felt* them no more, neither had he any *Symptom* of their Returning, but could *eat*, and *drink*, and *sleep* as well as any other of my *Patients* afflicted with this *Distemper*. His Father, Mr. *James Boddington*, an Eminent *Turkey Merchant*, lives in *Little St. Helen's, Bishopgate-Street*.

T H E

THE
CONCLUSION.

AND now having quite *finished* what I at *First* propos'd about the *King's Evil*; as to the *Name*, the *Nature*, and the *Causes* of it, as well as the *Parts* affected, the *Case* of a Person so afflicted, and the *Cure* of the *Disease* by Experience: I might here make some *Apology* according to *Custom*, *Fashion*, or *Formality*, for the *Meaness* of the *Performance*; but I am none of that modish *Temper*, or complaisant *Faculty* in Writing, as only to oblige the *Airy People* of the Age by a dissembling *Modesty*. And therefore I have chose rather to send this *Treatise* (such as it is) into the wide World; barely with this patient *Motto* of Indifferency along with it, or *Terence's Wish*, for its *Welfare*:

Valeat quantum valere potest.

But

But *However* ; I must beg leave, before we part, to *hint* by the way, that I have on Purpose omitted a vast many more notable *Instances* of my *curing* the *King's Evil* perfectly, which I could have produc'd with *Credit* ; but only for Fear of swelling this *Book* to such a *Bulk*, as might in all Probability have either disgusted or disobliged the *Reader*.

Post.

POSTSCRIPT.

UPON *second Thoughts*, it may, perhaps, be expected by the *Publick*, that I should give some Account of my *Medicines* above-mention'd, both as to the *Nature* and *Virtue* of them: And therefore, as I would not omit any thing *material* that might *oblige* the *World*, so I could not, for the better Satisfaction of People, forbear making the following *Proposals*, by way of *After-Thought*.

I. As for my *Alcalious* and *Diuretick Medicines*, which I give *internally* in all Cases of the *King's Evil*, with the greatest *Safety* imaginable; they certainly correct every *præternatural Acidity* in the *first Digestion*, which is the *primary Cause* of all other *ill Effects* in the *Body*. They give the *Patient* an extraordinary *Appetite*, comfort the *Vitals*, throw off the *morbifick Humour* from the *Viscera* or *Bowels* to the *Extreme Parts* of the *Body*; cheer the *Spirits*, strengthen the *Nerves*,
and

and at last sweeten the whole *Mass* of *Blood*: Giving immediate *Ease* also to *Persons* under the most violent, acute and corroding *Pains*, in what Part soever afflicted, either with *scrofulous Tumors* or *Ulcers*. Besides, I must needs say, that several *languishing People*, who have had the Use of their *Limbs* taken from them by those *Evils*, for a considerable time together, have yet been perfectly restor'd by these powerful *Alkali's*, beyond Expectation. I need not mention *many* more also, who have been *Convulsive* to the last degree of Danger and Despair, that have been preserv'd in like manner, and effectually cur'd, both of their *Fits* and the *Disease* by the same *Medicines*; even when *Opiates* themselves have prov'd *ineffective*, and where all other *Means* have fail'd of *Success*. Only give me Leave to add over and above, that *they* are very pleasant to the *Tast*; and the largest *Quantity* that I give to any one *Patient* at once, doth not exceed the Bigness of a *common Pea*. In short, they are wonderfully *Gentle* and *Easie* in their *Operation*, so that they work only by *Per-spiration* and *Urine*, without any Stress upon
upon

upon *Nature* or Confinement from *Business*.

II. And as those *Cordial Alkali's* which are both of a *Diuretick* and *Diaphoretick* Virtue, contribute very much towards bringing any *malignant strumous Tumors* to a palpable *Suppuration* the sooner, so they happily prepare the *Parts* affected for the immediate Application of my *Digestive Balsam*; which is so Powerful in its *Digestion*, that without either *Caustick* or *Incision*, or any other painful *Treatment*, it does in a short time, gently lay open the most inveterate *Swelling* of what kind soever, in the *Glands* or *elsewhere*; it sucks out the cold, curd'd and coagulated *Cores*; exfoliates the foul *Bones*, destroys the *Callous Lips* of the *Sores*, *mundifies*, *incarns*, and absolutely *cicatrizes* the *Parts* aggriev'd, by its *balsamick* and *healing Virtue*. But I will here presume to say by the *By*, that I have wrought as great and remarkable *Cures* with it also upon *Cancers*; altho' treated by many *others*, whether *Artists* or unskilful *Pretenders*, a long time without any commendable *Success*: For by dressing them a few times with this

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Digestive

Digestive Balsam, the *Patients* have forthwith been sensibly reliev'd, and found a great deal of *Ease* from such tormenting *Maladies*. 'Tis matter of Fact, that in all the *Cancers* I have had under my Care, this *Balsam*, by the Help of my *Alcalious Medicines*, hath never fail'd yet of *digesting* that filthy, sanious, sharp, fœtid, obstinate *Humour* into laudable *Pus* or *Matter*; and hath also in a reasonable time, discharg'd the whole *Cancerous* Substance and cur'd its *Malignity*, without leaving the least *Hardness* or *Pain*, or *Danger* of *Relapse* behind it. In a word, this same *Digestive Balsam* is likewise of that cleansing and healing *Nature*; that, in case of any gross *Scurf*, *Scabs*, *Pimples*, *Blotches*, or even *Leprous-spots* in the *Face*, or any other remote *Parts* of the *Body*, it being apply'd at *Night* only going to *Bed*, without any offensive *Smell*, painful *Influence*, or disagreeable *Sight*, will gently attract and suck out the peccant *Humour*, and in course quickly restore the *Skin* to its perfect *Beauty* or *Natural Smoothness*.

III. In

III. In fine, as to my *Discussive Emplastre*, it is of such a Sovereign *Virtue*, and *Power*, that let a *scrofulous Tumor* be never so Hard and Obstinate to resist all *suppurative Medicines* whatever, tho' it be of the largest Size and Figure; yet this *efficacious Discutient*, being apply'd only once a Week, opens the *Pores* so powerfully, and discharges the *sharp Humour* so much by *Sweat*, that in short, at last, by the Assistance of my *Alcalious* and *Diuretick Medicines*, it perfectly *discusses* and *annihilates* the whole vitious *Coagulation*. The *Nature* of this *Emplastre* is as *strengthening* also, as it is undeniably *discussive*; and it does not only *disperse* the *acrimonious Humour*, but as well also *fortifies* the *Part* that was affected with the most obdurate *Tumor*, against any future *Relapse*.

Now for the *Benefit* of the *Publick*, I propose, that any *Persons* who live in the *Remote Parts* of the *Kingdom*, may be supply'd with all these *Medicines*, both *Internal* and *External*, and with particular *Directions* also how to make

use of'em; upon giving me an exact *Account* of their Constitutions, and the Nature of their *Maladies*.

☞ I have also an *Excellent SECRET*, which in One Hour's time, *cures* the *Tooth-ach* without Drawing, and prevents it from ever Returning; as a great many of the *Nobility* and *Gentry*, and several Hundreds of others in this City and Suburbs, for Twelve Years last past, have found by Experience. Being the Author of this *Medicine*, to prevent its being Couterfeited, I do dispose of none but what I apply my self.



F I N I S.

*A PATIENT'S Advertise-
ment, To all Persons trou-
bled with the EVIL. By a
Brother in Affliction.*

I 'V E made the *Author* o'th foregoing,
Promise to Print what I should
throw in

By way of *Epilogue* to his *Book*;
So to himself now let him look.
As for the *Criticks*, they will cry,
'Tis dull enough to make one die;
Not of the *Evil*, I'll assure 'em,
And of their Malice he can *cure* 'em.

Now all who have this *Book* read
through,
Must give the *Author* what's his due,
And own they Benefit found by
Knowing the Cause, the *How* and *Why*:
And all the Pedigree from whence
This sad *Distemper* did commence.

Tho' thus I write in Burlesque way,
Yet all's most true that I do say;
And therefore let all *Mortals* know,
All *Women*, and their *Children* too;
That

That now are troubled with this *Evil*
And can believe me truly *Civil*;
The likeliest Person to apply to
Is whom these *Verses* have an Eye to:
An honest *Surgeon*, whose great Skill
Can cure this *Malady* at Will:
You'll find it so if you but try,
I speak Experimentally;
What *Pains* had I? at point of *Death*,
In strong *Convulsions* ev'ry Breath!
But ah! the *Ease*, you cannot guess
His Med'cines gave me, with Success.
No *Lance* or *Cautick* does he use,
But gently soon the *Foe* subdues:
Happy his *Patients* also be,
Who no *Fatigues* of *Physick* see.
H E shows his Skill to be the greater
In leading, and not driving Nature;
But his just *Praise* I must deny him,
Else you wou'd think I did bely him.

J. BODDINGTON.

